

**CAPITAL JEWISH MUSEUM PRESENTS THE INAUGURAL CAPITAL JEWISH FOOD FESTIVAL
ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9**

For Immediate Release


Washington, DC, September 22, 2022 — The inaugural Capital Jewish Food Festival (CJFF) will take place on Sunday, October 9, from 11am to 4pm. The Festival will be an exploration of food as an expression of identity, tradition, and community, and is inspired by the fall harvest festival of *Sukkot*. Local Jewish food experts **Susan Barocas, Vered Guttman, Joan Nathan**, among others, are presenting and participating as members of the CJFF's steering committee. Local chefs and restaurateurs will offer cooking demonstrations, food samples, and food for sale. Community partners will provide educational resources and workshops that highlight issues around food sustainability and food insecurity in the metro area. Renowned culinary historian **Michael Twitty** will be the headline speaker.

Sukkot is a week-long Jewish holiday that celebrates the fall harvest while recalling the Israelites' 40-year journey through the desert. Each fall, Jewish families and communities build *sukkahs* (booths) - in which it is customary to share meals, entertain, and rejoice. This year the holiday will be especially meaningful as the Museum welcomes visitors to the CJFF at the site of its new building, currently under construction, at F street between Third and Second Streets, NW.

The Festival will be a key addition to the region's rich landscape of food festivals. The CJFF, will celebrate the diversity of Jewish food and explore issues of food insecurity and sustainability. "Food is a shared language that is an accessible and fun transmitter of history and family tradition, and one that creates opportunities for cross-cultural engagement. Given the rise in antisemitism and divisive rhetoric, we view the Festival as an opportunity to create a greater understanding of the Jewish community and strengthen our cross-communal relations," stated **Ivy Barsky, Executive Director, Capital Jewish Museum**.

"DC has the third largest Jewish community in the nation, and one that is very diverse," noted **Susan Barocas, Chair of the CJFF Steering Committee**. "The Festival will be a wonderful showcase for the many different traditions and influences of today's Jewish foods. We hope that attendees will be inspired to explore what Jewish food can be, which is really world cuisine."

More than 15 restaurants, caterers, and food trucks will provide complimentary bite-sized samples and additional fare for purchase that highlight their culinary offerings and reflect the diversity of the Jewish diaspora. In the shopping and selection process, attendees will discover the stories behind the dishes, storefronts, and people. The central stage will feature a series of speakers, workshops, and cooking demonstrations. Michal Spins will serve as the Festival's emcee and DJ. Michal's work at the intersection of music, community, and social action complements the values and mission of the festival and Museum. The festival headliner will be



local James Beard award winner **Michael Twitty**, author of *The Cooking Gene* (HarperCollins, 2017) and *Koshersoul* (HarperCollins, 2022), and a groundbreaking culinary historian working at the intersection of Black, Jewish, and Southern cultures. Twitty will be joined in conversation with multimedia food journalist and industry leader **Nycci Nellis**.

Community partners will host workshops that explore issues of food insecurity and sustainability. The Capital Jewish Museum will host a booth where the public can chat with curators and learn more about the new Museum. Family activities will be provided by the Museum and the community partners. Seating will feature themed tables highlighting food-related stories from the Museum's collection.

Tickets

Tickets are on sale at <https://capitaljewishmuseum.org/cjff2022> with a discounted rate, and at regular price beginning September 3.

Participating Restaurants

Astro Doughnuts & Fried Chicken
Baked by Yael
Bread Furst
Call Your Mother
City-State Brewing
Compass Coffee
Cork Wine Bar & Market
Corned Beef King
Eat the Change
Immigrant Food
Jerusalem Mediterranean
Little Sesame
PLNT Burger
Prescription Chicken
Sababa
Shewa Ethiopian
Silver & Sons BBQ
Sunflower Bakery
Tavern at Ivy City Smokehouse

Community Partners


1882 Foundation
City Blossoms
Compost Cab
Edlavitch DCJCC
Food Rescue US-DC
Green Scheme
MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger
Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum

Location

At F Street between 3rd and 2nd Streets, NW. Enter at 3rd Street

Related Content

The Festival will be featured on the Museum's website at capitaljewishmuseum.org/CJFF2022,



as well as on our Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter channels, @CapJewishMuseum, using the hashtag #CJFF.

Program Support

Generous underwriting for this program is provided, in part, by an Anonymous donor in support of Michael Twitty's appearance. Additional support is provided by DowntownDC BID, the Embassy of Israel to the United States, and other friends of CJM.

Media support is provided by Nycci Nellis and The List Are You On It.

About the Capital Jewish Museum

The Capital Jewish Museum—a new museum opening at Third & F Streets, NW, in Spring 2023—is a secular organization that explores the intersection of the American Jewish experience in the nation's capital. The Museum inspires audiences to connect across communities, reflect on the relevance of the past to today, and act on behalf of their communities and values. The Capital Jewish Food Festival will be an annual highlight of the Museum's program schedule.

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For additional information about the Capital Jewish Food Festival, please contact:

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